

Remarks

Claims 1, 9-11 and 15-17 have been amended and claims 5-6, 12-14 and 21-22 have been canceled in this response. Thus, claims 1-4, 7, 9-11, 15-20, and 23 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Examiner's Comments

Claims 6 and 22

The Final Office Action pointed out that no art pertaining to claim 6 and 22 was found, and to integrate the elements of these claims into the independent claims would move prosecution of the application forward.

Applicant respectfully submits that each of new independent claims 1, 9 and 17 has integrated the elements of at least two of dependent claims 5-6, 12-14 and 21-22 in order to move the prosecution of the application forward. Applicant further respectfully submits that reference "Guyon" and associated documents do not contain inventions of the new independent claims 1, 9 and 17.

Claim 9 and associated dependent claims

The Final Office Action pointed out that the subject matter "apparatus" of claim 9 and associated dependent claims is not defined within the specification. Applicant changed the subject matter into "support vector machine" which was disclosed in the specification, such as the invention title, background, detailed description of the preferred embodiments. Applicant respectfully expects the prosecution of the application would be moved forward.

Claims Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 112

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7, 9-23 under 35 U.S.C. 112 for the unclarity of the phrase "based upon". Applicant has specified claims 1-7 and 9-23 into eliminating the at least one feature with one of a minimum value and a maximum value from the group. Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims have definitely and distinctly claimed the subject matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Official Action rejected claims 1-5, 7, 9-21 and 23 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cristianini in view of Guyon.

Applicant has amended each of independent claims 1, 9 and 17 to integrate at least two of claims 5-6, 12-13 and 21-22. Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims 1, 9 and 17 are neither taught nor suggested by the combination of Cristianini and Guyon, and therefore are patentable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4, 7, 10-11, 15-16, 18-20 and 23 depending on claim 1, 9 or 17 are at least allowable for the reasons noted above.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action. Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is requested, and allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #02-2666. If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (503) 439-8778 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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